

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANILA 09896 181251Z

70

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

AID-05 EUR-12 SAJ-01 ACDA-05 /080 W

----- 112121

R 181024Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5619

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 9896

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, RP, CH

SUBJECT: HAVING YOUR COCOON AND LEAVING IT, TOO

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

REF: (A) MANILA 9809 (B) MANILA 8664 (C) MANILA 8086

SUMMARY: RECENT GOP STATEMENTS REVEAL CONTINUING CONTRAST BETWEEN REASSERTION OF COMMITMENT TO NEW "SELF-RELIANCE" IN FOREIGN POLICY AND DEFENSIVE REASSURANCES THAT THE "NEW LOOK" WILL NOT STIMULATE COMMUNISM, INSURGENCY, ATHEISM, AND OTHER THINGS THAT GO BUMP IN THE NIGHT. THIS TREND SHOULD NOT BE INTERPRETED TO MEAN THAT FILIPINOS ARE HYPOCRITES--THEY GENUINELY WANT TO LEAVE THE OLD "COCOON OF FOREIGN PROTECTION" (AS PRESIDENT MARCOS HAS DUBBED IT) AND YET STAY IN IT TO GREATEST EXTENT POSSIBLE. ESSENTIAL CONSERVATIVENESS OF MANY FILIPINOS WOULD CONSEQUENTLY SUGGEST THAT LONG RUN PRACTICAL GOALS IN BASE NEGOTIATIONS

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MANILA 09896 181251Z

WILL BE LESS EXPANSIVE THAN SUGGESTED BY VARIOUS PUBLICIZED

PROPOSALS. END SUMMARY.

1. SINCE PRESIDENT MARCOS RETURNED FROM CHINA VISIT ON JUNE 11, HE HAS HARPED ON NECESSITY OF "NEW LOOK" IN FOREIGN POLICY, INCLUDING REVISION OF SECURITY AGREEMENTS WITH U.S., AND CALLED FOR DOMESTIC REFORMS INSPIRED BY "CHINESE MODEL." AT SAME TIME, IN SIGNIFICANT CONTRAST, HE AND AIDES HAVE ISSUED STREAM OF REASSURANCES TO THOSE WHO ARE DEEPLY FEARFUL OF POSSIBLE "NEW LOOK" CONSEQUENCES, ABOVE ALL COMMUNISM AND LOSS OF U.S. RELATIONSHIP.

2. ON THE PRO-NEW LOOK SIDE OF THE LEDGER, MRS. MARCOS AND HER COTERIE ARE MOVING AHEAD WITH INTEGRATED FAMILY PLANNING-WELFARE-NUTRITION "PROJECT COMPASSION," WHICH IS SUPPOSEDLY DESIGNED TO INFUSE BARRIOS WITH CHINESE SPIRIT OF SELF-RELIANCE. WHILE PROJECT COMPASSION MAY OWE MUCH TO CURRENT MODISHNESS OF CHINOISERIE, THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT SOME TECHNOCRATS IMPRESSED WITH CHINESE ACCOMPLISHMENTS ARE SERIOUSLY PONDERING APPLICABILITY OF CHINESE MODEL TO LOCAL DEVELOPMENT NEEDS. SOMEWHAT MORE VIGOROUS IMPLEMENTATION OF LAND REFORM MAY BE FORTHCOMING THANKS TO NEW AWARENESS OF CHINESE GRASS ROOTS ACCOMPLISHMENTS (AND MAY BE FURTHER MOTIVATED BY REPORTS OF INCREASED RURAL INSURGENCY IN SOME AREAS). SIMULTANEOUSLY, PRESIDENT AND OTHER HAVE REPEATEDLY STATED NEW CHINA RELATIONSHIP IS KEY TO PATH OF SELF-RELIANCE IN FOREIGN POLICY WHICH ALSO INVOLVES REVISION OF SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS WITH U.S.

3. ON OTHER SIDE OF LEDGER, OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN ISSUING STREAM OF REASSURANCES THAT PHILIPPINES WILL NOT GO COMMUNIST, WILL NOT EMBRACE ATHEISM, WILL NOT TOLERATE INSURGENCY, WILL NOT DESERT OLD ALLIES, ETC. PRESIDENT MARCOS HIT THIS THEME MOST FORCEFULLY ON JUNE 12, WHEN, FRESH OFF THE PLANE FROM PEKING, HE ADDRESSED INDEPENDENCE DAY GATHERING (REF B). SINCE THEN, THERE HAVE BEEN INCREASING MEDIA REFERENCES TO NECESSITY OF AVOIDING "MISUNDERSTANDING" OF NEW CHINA POLICY. AT END OF JUNE GOVERNOR OF PANGASIAN PROVINCE ANNOUNCED HE WAS LAUNCHING BARIO-TO-BARIO EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO DISABUSE RURAL FOLK OF NOTION THAT COMMUNISTS MAY NOW OPERATE WITH A FREE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MANILA 09896 181251Z

HAND. ON JULY 16 PRESIDENT MARCOS DELIVERED SIMILAR MESSAGE TO NATION-WIDE AUDIENCE WHEN IN LETTER TO 42,000 BARANGAY CAPTAINS HE ARGUED THAT RECOGNITION OF PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA WOULD NOT EXPOSE PHILIPPINES TO SUBVERSION OR INCREASED INTERFERENCE FROM ABROAD. IN A JULY 13 SPEECH PRESIDENT, ALTHOUGH POSTULATING NEED TO "DEPART COCOON OF FOREIGN PROTECTION," URGED LISTENERS TO BE CONFIDENT ABOUT FUTURE (A-192). IN JULY 15 ADDRESS

(REPORTED REF A) ROMULO INDULGED IN TRANSPARENTLY DEFENSIVE EFFORT TO PICTURE "NEW LOOK" AS NOTING NEW AFTER ALL, BUT RATHER CULMINATION OF "UNREMITTING NATIONAL EFFORT" TO STRENGTHEN NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY.

4. COMMENT: DESPITE CONSIDERABLE DRAMA AND PRIDE WITH WHICH PRESIDENT ANNOUNCED REVIEW OF U.S. SECURITY RELATIONS AND NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WITH CHINA, EXPERIENCES OVER PAST FEW MONTHS HAVE RECONFIRMED THAT WHILE MANY FILIPINOS GENUINELY WANT TO LEAVE THE "COCOON OF FOREIGN PROTECTION" MANY MORE WOULD BE HAPPIER IF THEY COULD REMAIN INSIDE. FEAR OF CHINA BY ITSELF WOULD NOT PERHAPS AMOUNT TO MUCH IF NOT INEXTRICABLY LINKED WITH MUCH DEEPER ANXIETIES RE DIMINISHMENT OF U.S. PRESENCE. THESE ANXIETIES ARE UNDOUBTEDLY STRONGEST AMONG PROVINCIAL ELITE WHO ARE OFTEN UNSOPHISTICATED AS WELL AS DEEPLY CONSERVATIVE. THIS GROUP IS DISPROPORTIONATELY INFLUENTIAL IN THE PHILIPPINES AS SEEDBED OF SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF CURRENT POLITICAL AND MILITARY LEADERSHIP. MILITARY HAVE, IN FACT, BEEN CONSISTENTLY CRITICAL OF IMPLICATIONS THEY HAVE SEEN IN POLICY TRENDS. INCREASING OFFICIAL CONTACT WITH PRC, INCLUDING OPENING OF NEW AND LARGE EMBASSY, WILL INEVITABLY ENTAIL SOME FRICTION AND THUS AGGRAVATE ELITE ANXIETIES. SO, IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING, WILL ANY INCREASE IN INSURGENCY, WHETHER OR NOT PRC IS ACTUALLY DOING ANYTHING TO SUPPORT IT.

5. PRESIDENT, WELL AWARE OF ALL THIS, IS THUS IN AWKWARD POSITION OF COMMITMENT TO NEW POLICY COMBINED WITH ACUTELY FELT NEED TO MINIMIZE PRACTICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL CONSEQUENCES. DESIRE TO MINIMIZE CONSEQUENCES DOES NOT VITIATE HIS DETERMINATION TO CARRY THROUGH CHANGES BUT IT DOES SUGGEST THAT PRESIDENT'S PRACTICAL GOALS ARE IN CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 MANILA 09896 181251Z

OONG RUN PROBABLY APPRECIABLY MORE CONSERVATIVE THAN ATMOSPHERICS BEING CREATED BY HIS STAFF WOULD SUGGEST.
SULLIVAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, FORM OF GOVERNMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MANILA09896
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750249-0431
From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750743/aaaabmdp.tel
Line Count: 157
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 MANILA 9809, 75 MANILA 8664, 75 MANILA 8086
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <13 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HAVING YOUR COCOON AND LEAVING IT, TOO CINCPAC FOR POLAD
TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, RP, CH
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006